An amount of Rs. 94.2 crore was allocated to the channel during its two and half years existence, for programming and other exigencies, which cannot be construed as a loss.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Complaint regarding denial of justice to dock workers

3572. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a complaint regarding denial of justice to 21 dock workers of New Mangalore Port Trust;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on such a complaint; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANYAFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The complaint is against a sitting Judge of the Karnataka High Court and pertains to a period prior to his appointment as a Judge of the High Court. As the complaint is not in relation to the discharge of his duties as a Judge, it has not been possible for the Government to take any action in the matter.

Scope of Lok Adalats

3573. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANYAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to extend the scope of Lok Adalats to provide compulsory pre-litigation mechanism for conciliation and settlement of cases relating to the public utility services;

(b) whether Government are proposing to extend the limit of Lok Adalats upto Rs. 50 lakhs; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) At present, the Lok Adalats can settle disputes only on the basis of compromise or settlement among the parties. If the parties do not arrive at a settlement, the case is cither returned to the court of law or the parties arc advised to seek remedy in a court of law. To remove this drawback, it has been decided to add a new chapter in the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987,